उपरोक्त तथ्यों को ध्यान में रखते हुए, आप सहमत होंगे कि राजस्थान में जल-संग्रहण संरचनाओं के लिए अलग से कोई और योजना आरंभ करने की आवश्यकता प्रतीत नहीं होती है।

सादर,

आपका

Signature

(शान्ता कुमार)

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Four pronged strategy for Rural Development

4940. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the plans of the Rural Development Ministry to give shape to the Prime Minister's statement on adopting four-pronged strategy for rural development-physical and electronic connectivity, electricity, market access and electronic services like Telecom and Internet; and

(b) if so, would this planning be an integrated one with time-bound fixed targets, adequate budgetary allocation and monitoring to machanism keep an watch on progress ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) Out of four items mentioned, the Ministry of Rural Development is concerned, to some extent, with physical connectivity and marketing of rural products.

Government has launched a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme called the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), which seeks to provide connectivity to all unconnected Habitations in the rural areas with a rural population of more than 500 persons with good all-weather road by the end of the Tenth Five-Year Plan. In respect of the Hill States (North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttaranchal) and Desert Areas, the objective would be to connect Habitations with a population of 250 persons and above by 2007.

Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) Guidelines provide for earmarking of 20% of the annual allocation as SGSY Programme Infrastructure Fund. This fund could be utilized for creation for marketing infrastructure,

development of market linkages, processing, packaging etc. Besides, projects for development of marketing infrastructure and marketing linkages are being sanctioned to the States/DRDAs under SGSY Special Projects.

As part of marketing initiatives, the Ministry organizes exhibition and sale of rural products in SARAS pavilion of the India International Trade fare every year. Provision of electricity and electronic services does not come under the purview of the Ministry of Rural Development.

(b) While targets have been fixed only under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), the budgetary allocation depend on the availability of resorces.

The Ministry has developed a comprehensive multi-level and multi-tool system of monitoring the implementation and impact of the rural development schemes, including utilization of funds.

Reducing poverty in the country

4941. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU) : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of record food production during the past years, the number of people living Below Poverty Line has not decreased;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) action contemplated to address the root causes for the prevailing economic condition of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Ministry of Rural Development implements schemes for employment generation, housing, rural connectivity, watershed development, drinking water supply and sanitation in the rural areas of the country.

Production ofinternational grade hybrid Silk

4942. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has been successful to produce international grade hybrid silk;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to patent the new hybrid silk worm varieties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL) : (a) and (b) Central Silk Board (CSB) has been successful in evolving bivoltine hybrids capable of yielding international grade silk with the technical assistance of Japan International Co-Operation Agency